



APF Judge

General Training Course

Overview

- Documents
- General Section
- Competitions
- Quiz

Abbreviations / Acronyms



Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

Formed in 1905 to govern and regulate air sports internationally.



ISC - International Skydiving Commission

One of the 10 Air Sports Commissions in the FAI



NAC - National Airsport Control

Air Sport Australian Confederation is the NAC of Australia, the ISC delegate represents the APF

More Abbreviations / Acronyms

- FCE First Category Event
- WAG World Air Games
- WPC World Parachuting Championships
- SC Sporting Code
- FS Formation Skydiving
- VFS Vertical Formation Skydiving
- SP Speed
- AL Accuracy Landing
- WS Wingsuit (Performance and Acro)
- CP Canopy Piloting
- CF Canopy Formation
- AE Artistic Events (Freestyle)

Documents

Sporting Code

Competition Rules

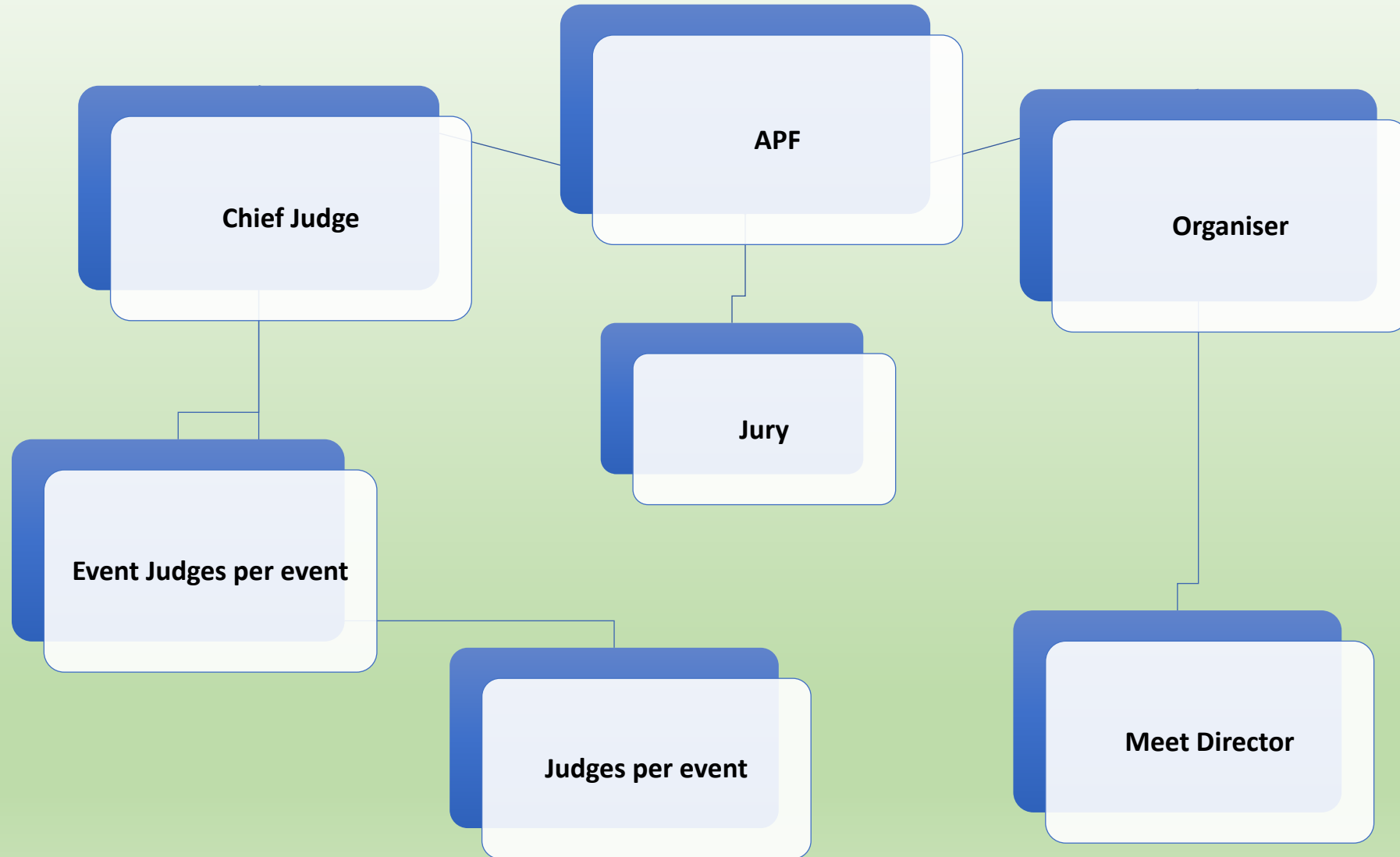
Judge Manual

National Records Manual

Australian Parachute Team Manual

<https://www.apf.com.au/Sports-Jumping/Competition/sporting-code>

Competition Organisation Structure



Qualities of a Good Judge

We need to be: - Professional

Patient (a virtue)

Pleasure

Practice



Remember the QUALITIES of being a good judge

Qualities of a Good Judge



A good judge:

LOOK

Is willing to Learn

- To improve his/her skills
- To keep “up to date”
- To accept change

Has a capacity for work

- Long unsocial hours
 - Often in a poor environment
 - Under extreme pressure



A Good Judge



Is Diligent

- Always present when and where wanted
- Not easily distracted
- Willing to help

Has Patience and Humility

- Willing to admit mistakes
- Be prepared to be a scapegoat
- Have patience – whatever the provocation



A Good Judge

Has absolute Impartiality

- ✓ No bias, national or otherwise
- ✓ Does not need anonymity
- ✓ Will take responsibility for his/her decisions
- ✓ No status distinction



A Good Judge

Has the Ability to Work Well with Others

- ✧ Is not a loner
- ✧ Is able to accept another's opinion
- ✧ Never forces his/her point of view
- ✧ Accepts different backgrounds

✧ Is a Team Player



A Good Judge

Respects the Competitors

- ❖ Their Dedication and Training
- ❖ By ensuring they are fit to judge
 - ❖ and not the last man standing in the bar
 - ❖ or distracted by an earlier decision that rankles
 - ❖ Be able to move on
 - to concentrate on the next jump

Documents

- **Sporting Code**
- Competition Rules – per discipline
- Judge Manual
- National Records Manual
- Australian Parachute Team Manual

Sporting Code

- Revised annually
- It contains the rules for running a competition
- Judges and Competitors should be familiar with it
- Update for 2024 is in line with FAI sporting code, general section.

Sporting Code PART 1 - CHAMPIONSHIPS & COMPETITIONS

- **General Conditions**

- The aims of National Championships are to:

- (a) determine the Australian Champions;
 - (b) establish competition records;
 - (c) promote and develop various disciplines;
 - (d) exchange ideas and strengthen friendly relations between participants;
 - (e) allow participants to share and exchange experience, knowledge and information; and
 - (f) provide an opportunity for APF members to participate in competitive skydiving

Sporting Code PART 1 - CHAMPIONSHIPS & COMPETITIONS

- Bids
 - APF puts out a formal request to bid to host championships
- Finance and Accountability
 - APF provides judges, medals, equipment and media support
 - Rest of cost to organiser is met by rego fees, jump fees, sponsorship, merch
 - Chief judge has to provide a written report to APF within 6 weeks, including minutes from any competitors meetings.
- Pre-Competition Management
 - Program of championships, schedule of events, venue details, judge details, equipment

Sporting Code PART 1 - CHAMPIONSHIPS & COMPETITIONS

- Management of the Championships
 - The chief judge will assign duties to those connected with judging
- Holding of Championship Events
 - Individual Championships Events may be held provided there are at least five competitors.
 - Team Championships Events may be held provided there are at least three teams.

Sporting Code PART 1 - CHAMPIONSHIPS & COMPETITIONS

- Awards
 - Medals and the title Australian Champion will not be awarded unless at least five Individuals or three Teams complete the event.
 - For Individual events, only APF members who normally reside in Australia will be eligible to receive medals or the title Australian Champion.
 - A Bronze medal will not be awarded for Championship events with only three teams.

Sporting Code PART 2 – NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS GENERAL PROVISIONS

- **Equipment**
 - Parachutes and equipment may be inspected by the Chief Judge or Meet Director or delegate in relation to competition rules
- **Training and other Jumps**
 - Training jumps from the aircraft to be used in the competition may be commenced in the days prior to the start of the Championships. Where practical, judges and associated equipment may be provided on training days for competitors training jumps to be evaluated.
 - Training jumps shall not be made once an event has commenced. In those events where a Draw is made to determine the test, the event shall be deemed to have commenced when the Draw is made.
 - Competitors must not make descents other than competition jumps during the Championships, unless authorised by the Meet Director and Chief Judge.
 - Competitors that practice or conspire to practice a drawn jump on or off the competition site shall be disqualified from the event.
 - Competitors must not use a wind tunnel (freefall simulator) once the event has commenced

Sporting Code PART 2 – NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Order of events
 - The Meet Director, in close co-operation with the Chief Judge, must take maximum Sporting Code 10 20 October 2023 Australian Parachute Federation advantage of favourable meteorological conditions.
- Calling the Jumpers
 - The Meet Director will use STANDBY to indicate competitors must be on site and calls may be given at any time. RELEASED will be used to indicate competitors are not required and will be accompanied by a time at which STANDBY reoccurs.
 - Competitors who do not arrive in time to board the aircraft must receive the maximum or minimum score (as appropriate) for that jump.

Sporting Code PART 2 – NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Cameraflyer Interference and other Persons or Objects on Board or in the Air
 - If, in the opinion of the majority of the Judges evaluating a team's performance, a photographer other than the team's freefall photographer interferes with the judgeability of a team's performance or through direct body contact adversely affects a team's performance, a rejump may be awarded. In this case the cameraman responsible will not be permitted to participate in further camera jumps during the competition.
 - A rejump may be offered if the majority of the Judges conclude that a team's performance has been adversely affected by an object in the air (e.g., aircraft, canopies). The Judges' decision is no grounds for a protest.

Sporting Code PART 2 – NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Cessation of Events and Refusal to Jump
 - A competitor may choose not to exit the aircraft for any pertinent reason and land with the aircraft. Once any team member (other than the videographer) has left the aircraft after the aircraft has commenced jump run, the jump shall be evaluated and scored. A team that has elected to land with the aircraft shall be given a new opportunity to jump as soon as possible. If a jump abortion is repeated, the Chief Judge shall decide whether the reason is pertinent. If safety concerns are cited, the Chief Judge will defer to the DZSO for a determination on pertinence.
- Rejumps'
 - If a rejump is granted to a competitor/team who has formally requested it, the rejump must be made. If the rejump is not made, the maximum/minimum score for that jump is given.

Sporting Code PART 2 – NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Jumps Per Day
 - The maximum number of jumps competitors are required to complete in one day is:
 - (a) five Jumps per day for Blast and A Formation Skydiving Events
 - (a) six jumps per day for Intermediate Canopy Piloting Events
 - (b) no limit for all other Events.

Sporting Code PART 3 – JUDGING AND SCORING

- Judging Panels
 - The Judging Panel for each event will be appointed by the Chief Judge
 - The Chief Judge may appoint a member of the Judging Panel as the Event Judge and delegate relevant authority to them

Sporting Code PART 3 – JUDGING AND SCORING

- Judging Rules
 - This section mostly relates to FS/CF
 - A majority of Judges must agree in the evaluation in order to:
 - (a) credit the scoring formation;
 - (b) assign an infringement;
 - (c) assign an omission;
 - (d) determine an NV situation
 - The Chief Judge will designate someone to monitor and keep a written record of any abnormal incidents or weather conditions, such as cloud cover, precipitation, etc. This person will monitor the anemometer and inform the Meet Director and the Chief Judge if the wind speed exceeds the prescribed limit

Sporting Code

PART 3 – JUDGING AND SCORING

- Video Recording and Submission
 - The video equipment must be able to deliver a High Definition 1080 type digital signal with a minimum frame rate of 25 frames per second, through a memory card (minimum class 10). The Videographer is responsible for ensuring the compatibility of their video equipment with the scoring system
 - Only one recording will be dubbed and judged. Secondary video evidence may only be used in NV situations
 - The camera(s) must be fixed static to the videographer's helmet. No roll, pitch or yaw movements of the camera(s), mechanical and/or digital zoom adjustment, or any digital effects (excluding "steady shot" or other image stabilization feature) may be used during competition jumps. Failure to meet any of these requirements will lead to a score of zero points.

Sporting Code PART 3 – JUDGING AND SCORING

- Scoring
 - Once any competitor has left the aircraft, the jump will be evaluated.
 - Provision of video evidence for judging purposes is the responsibility of the team.
 - If a competitor or team is disqualified for a jump, the maximum/minimum score (as appropriate) is awarded for that jump.

Sporting Code PART 3 – JUDGING AND SCORING

- Protests and Reviews
 - Request for Review (not available internationally)
 - In all events other than Formation Skydiving events, competitors may request to have any competition jump, including other team's jumps, reviewed, rejudged and rescored, if applicable. In Formation Skydiving events, competitors may request to have their own competition jumps reviewed, rejudged and rescored, if applicable. The request must be made in writing within two hours of the scores being posted and shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee (\$100). The fee shall be refunded if the review results in a change of assessment to the jump in question

Sporting Code PART 3 – JUDGING AND SCORING

- Protests and Reviews

- Protest

- A protest must be submitted to the Chief Judge within two hours of the knowledge of the grounds for protest. The protest must be signed by the competitor or Team Captain
 - A Jury meeting must be called by the Chair of the Jury at the earliest possible opportunity
 - Each protest must state the particular rule, or rules, under which the protest is being made
 - A Judges' assessment cannot be protested (this is a request for review)
 - Fee is \$100, this will be refunded if protest is successful

Sporting Code PART 3 – JUDGING AND SCORING

- **Jury**

- The Jury shall consist of at least three people selected by APF for their knowledge of competition parachuting and their impartiality. They shall be thoroughly familiar with this document and relevant competition rules.
- The Chair of the Jury shall ensure all Jury members are present and after reading the protest shall ask the competitor or Team Captain to add any further information or explanation that might clarify the protest.
- The Chair shall then ask the Chief Judge to add any further information or explanation which might clarify the recommendations of the Judges.
- The Jury's decision shall be final and without appeal to other bodies.

Documents

- Sporting Code
- Competition Rules – per discipline
- **Judge Manual**
- National Records Manual
- Australian Parachute Team Manual

Judge Manual

- General
 - APF Judge means any person who holds judging qualifications in the relevant discipline issued by APF or an overseas body and that has been approved by APF to undertake the relevant duties.
- Judges Log
 - Judges need to keep a log of all their judging activity signed by the event and chief judge.
- Judge Rating
 - Valid for 2 years
 - Fit and proper person over 18
 - Pass the written and practical assessments

Judge Manual

- Discipline Endorsements
 - Valid for 2 years
 - Must meet competency standards for the discipline
- Revalidation Requirements
 - (a) Has judged at least one State Championships, National Championships, or other equivalent competition acceptable to APF within the previous 2 years.
 - (b) Has judged at least 60 competition jumps, in competition or from approved video files, in each discipline for which revalidation is required; and
 - (c) Continues to meet the requirements of 1.3.2 and the competency standards for the relevant discipline.

Judge Manual

- Chief Judge
 - administrative head of the Judging Panel(s) and should be thoroughly familiar with all aspects of the conduct and operation of National Championships. The duties of the Chief Judge include:
 - (a) Overseeing all matters of judging for the Championships as directed by APF.
 - (b) Assessing the currency and competence of all judges prior to the commencement of the Championships.
 - (c) Assigning Judges to each event and allocating all other judging tasks.
 - (d) Prior to the start of the competition confirming that all necessary equipment is available and functioning, that all preparations have been completed and that sufficient supplies, accessories, technology and technology-support are available.
 - (e) Ensuring prompt publication of results.
 - (f) Supplying a written report to APF on the performance of the Judges. This report is to be presented within 30 days of the conclusion of the competition. Judges Manual 6 20 October 2023 Australian Parachute Federation
 - (g) Supplying a written report to APF, on the efficiency of the judging aspects of the competition and make any recommendations for improvements. This report is to be presented within 30 days of the conclusion of the competition.

Judge Manual

- Event Judge
 - Discipline Lead.
- Judging of Championships
 - All Judges shall have a detailed knowledge of the rules, technical conditions and scoring systems relevant to National Championships.
 - The Judges must not provide any person with result information until that information has been declared official and may not discuss the judging process with anyone other than the other judges on their panel.
- FAI Judge Ratings
 - Valid for 2 years
 - Fit and proper person over 18
 - Pass the written and practical assessments

Judge Manual

- FAI Judge Ratings
 - FAI Judge Ratings are administered and issued by FAI.
 - If you wish to nominate for enrolment in an ISC-sanctioned FAI Judge Training Course you should seek endorsement from APF as soon as practical prior to the commencement of the course.
 - APF will assess a candidate's application and may provide a letter of support for their application. An application will usually be supported where the member has:
 - (a) Held an APF Judge Rating and relevant Discipline Endorsement for at least two years; and
 - (b) Judged at least two APF National Championships or other equivalent competitions to the satisfaction of APF in the previous three years; and
 - (c) Satisfied the requirements of the FAI/ISC for issue of an FAI Parachuting Judge rating; and
 - (d) Demonstrated exemplary skill and character as a Judge.

Documents

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- Competition Rules – per discipline
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- Australian Parachute Team Manual

National Records Manual

General

- The record must be verified by at least two APF Judges holding endorsements in the relevant discipline, for High Altitude records this may be verified by an APF Judge of any discipline.
- No longer need on-site judge, can use a DZSO with a valid endorsement to verify the integrity of the attempt
- A significant change of the conditions in the Competition Rules, for example the working time or size of the Dead Centre Disc, creates a new set of competition records. The old records are retired
- An Australian Record may be set providing at least 75% of the participants are APF members who normally reside in Australia

National Records Manual

Competition Records

- All Competition Records must be established during the scheduled competition rounds at competitions run in accordance with the APF Sporting Code. Excludes training jumps
- Joint Record holders may be recorded in Accuracy Landing, Formation Skydiving, Canopy Formation, Artistic Events, Wingsuit, Speed and Canopy Piloting:
 - (a) if two or more competitors or teams achieve the same record performance during the same round and thereby break an existing record, the new record shall be registered in the names of all the competitors or teams involved.
 - (b) if a competitor or team achieves a performance during a later round in the same event, which is equal to a new record performance achieved during an earlier round in that event, no recognition will be given to the later performance as being a record performance.

National Records Manual

Performance Records

- Accuracy
 - Number of consecutive landings
- Altitude
 - Measured AMSL
- Largest Formation
 - A written plan describing the formation to be attempted and the personnel involved must be submitted in advance to the Judges. The formation must be completed as described with all named personnel in the formation.
 - If two or more teams achieve an identical record performance on the same calendar day and thereby break an existing record, the new record shall be registered in the name of all the individuals or teams involved.

National Records Manual

Australian Record Classification

- Class A to X, anything that doesn't fit a classification is a Notable Event.
- Class A-C can be individual or group
- Class K can be further classified at Rotations or Sequential
- Class M can be further classified at Largest or Largest Sequential
- Class U can be further classified at Largest, Largest Sequential or Largest TBS

National Records Manual

Application for Recognition

- Applications for Competition records should be accompanied by the following information:
 - (a) The name, residency, and sporting licence number / membership number of each parachutist;
 - (b) Type of aircraft; National Records Manual Australian Parachute Federation 20 October 2023
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 - (c) Where the competition record took place;
 - (d) Date of the competition record; and
 - (e) Certification by the judges (and DZSO where applicable) that the competition record was conducted and achieved in accordance with the APF Sporting Code and National Record Manual.
- A record set a WPC or WC is sufficient evidence to certify the record as a national record

National Records Manual

Application for Recognition

- Applications for Performance records should be accompanied by the following information:
 - (a) The name, residency and sporting licence number of each parachutist;
 - (b) The type of the ascent vehicle(s);
 - (c) Exit height used;
 - (d) Where the performance took place;
 - (e) Time and date of the performance record;
 - (f) Chief Judges' certification that the performance record was conducted and achieved in accordance with the APF Sporting Code; and
 - (g) Dropzone details including height above sea level.